Solano
Community
Foundation

2020 Education Plus! Grant Program

Eligibility & Application Instructions

The 2020 Education Plus! Grant application cycle opens March 6, 2020 and closes September 4, 2020. Teachers working in Solano County public schools (K thru 12), and qualified 501(c)(3) charitable organizations are eligible to apply. Projects must exhibit the **"Plus! Factor,"** i.e., those that enhance learning, improve student achievement, and augment participants' educational experience in unique and successful ways.

FUNDING FOCUS AREAS

1. **Teachers** may apply for small grants of **up to $1,000** to support reading and math programs (e.g., remedial and mentoring projects, intervention programs, and after-school and summer programs). Teacher applicants must submit the Teacher Education Plus! Grant Application Form to request funding.

2. **Nonprofit organizations** may apply for larger grants of **up to $2,500** to for reading or math projects, or to support job training and workforce development projects for adolescents and adults. Nonprofit applicants must submit a Nonprofit Education Plus! Application Form to request funding.

Foundation staff will determine whether the request aligns with the stated funding focus areas, addresses specific funding goals and objectives, and contains the necessary criteria for further consideration. If required information is missing or incomplete, SCF will contact the applicant via email to request the needed information. This does not mean the project will receive funding, it only means that that we need more information to make our decision.

Solano Community Foundation is committed to addressing poverty and unemployment in Solano County. Through this competitive grant program, SCF will support programs that specifically address achieving or improving grade-level reading or math skills, or maintaining skills consistent with current grade level reading and math proficiencies. Additionally, SCF will support education and training programs and projects that prepare young adults for employment and lead to workforce readiness.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Teachers in Solano County and River Delta public schools (in Solano County) serving students in grades K – 12 are eligible to apply.

B. Nonprofit organizations designated as I.R.S. 501(c)(3) organizations serving Solano County residents are eligible to apply.

C. Funding requests must focus on projects that address reading, math, or employment training as described above.

APPLICATION RECEIPT & NOTIFICATION PROCESS

A. Applications may be submitted via email to grants@solanocf.org (preferred method), by regular mail, or hand-delivered to the Foundation on or before the deadline.

B. SCF will send each applicant an email to confirm receipt of his or her request.

C. SCF will determine funding status upon completion of our review/scoring. An applicant may be asked to provide specific additional information.

D. SCF will notify applicants of their funding status within 7 to 10 business days after receiving a request.

E. Grantee award letters and checks will be processed and mailed (or held for pick up) within 10 to 14 business days after a request is received.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. The Application Form for Teachers and Nonprofits is a fill-in-the-blank PDF and content must be typed. Although an electronic signature is preferred, a completed form may be printed and then signed by the school principal or head of the nonprofit organization.

B. Only one application per teacher or nonprofit will be funded in one calendar year grant cycle.

C. Incomplete or handwritten applications will not be considered – applicant will be notified by email.

D. Identical applications submitted by the same school for the same project (but for different classes) must clearly explain the unique purpose of each request.

E. All applicants must provide a current email address and phone number.

F. A project budget is a required application component; it must include a list of expense items and amounts for the proposed use of funding.

G. Supporting documentation must be provided for the services or materials to be purchased with grant monies. No exceptions.

H. Applicants must give a clear explanation of how and when monies will be acquired if the cost of the project exceeds the Ed Plus! grant amount requested.

I. Ed Plus! grant monies awarded to school teachers may not to be used to pay for a teacher's or school chaperone's meals or personal travel expenses.

ALL GRANTS - APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Projects that clearly identify the "Plus! Factor," and embrace a high level of participant involvement will receive strongest consideration. Funding consideration factors include:

D. A direct alignment with the specific focus area selected on the application form.

E. Specific learning goals and objectives for the participants are identified.

F. Project purpose and goals are clearly stated and the 'Plus! Factor' for funding worthiness is evident.

G. Project activities and level of participant involvement are clearly described.

H. An evidence-based evaluation system is in place, or will be implemented to plan, record, measure and assess impact.

I. The project budget is complete, aligned with project purpose and goals, and items are directly related to the activities.

J. Supporting documentation is provided to show vendor information, cost and description of the item(s) to be purchased.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS & PUBLICTY

A. Submission of a written Grantee Final Report is required of all grant recipients.

B. The report is due no later than one year from the date of the award letter or when grant monies have been spent, whichever is sooner.

C. SCF requires grantees to return of unused grant monies. The grantee is asked to notify SCF as soon as possible if the grant monies cannot be used for the intended purpose.

D. The final report must include at least two digital photos of participants involved in project activities (or use of items purchased).

E. Acceptance of an Education Plus! Program grant implies consent for SCF to use report information, photos, and award results in media coverage.

F. SCF's funding support must appear in grantee publicity releases about the project, and in marketing materials, etc.

G. The SCF Grantee Final Report Form and the SCF Media Release Form may be downloaded from the Ed Plus! Program page on the SCF website, or requested via email.

H. Failure to submit a required final report may render the applicant ineligible to receive future Education Plus! awards.